

# **AGENDA**

## **BROWN BRIDGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, March 17, 2016**  
**5:15 pm**

Governmental Center  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - County Training Room  
400 Boardman Avenue  
Traverse City, MI 49684

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If you are planning to attend the meeting and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting, please notify ***Steve Largent, Grand Traverse Conservation District***, immediately.

The City of Traverse City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Penny Hill, Assistant City Manager, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan, 49684, 922-4440, TDD 922-4412, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice Regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided there under, are available from the ADA Coordinator.

Steve Largent  
Grand Traverse Conservation District  
1450 Cass Rd.  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
(231) 941-0960 Ext. 16

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|--------------------|------------|--|
| <b>5:15 – 5:25</b> | <b>I</b>   | <b>Call Meeting to Order (Asper)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1 Introductions</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a. New Members</b></li></ul></li><li><b>2 Approval of Agenda</b></li><li><b>3 Approval of 012/10/16 Regular Meeting Minutes</b></li></ul>  |
| <b>5:25 – 5:35</b> | <b>II</b>  | <b>Review Open Action Items (see Page 2 of this Agenda) – (Asper)</b>  |
| <b>5:35 – 6:35</b> | <b>III</b> | <b>Project Updates (GTCD Staff)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Project Update &amp; Donor Recognition Requests – Action Item</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a. Trees for the Boardman – (Norm Fred)</b></li><li><b>b. East End Bridge</b></li><li><b>c. West End Bridge</b></li></ul></li><li><b>2. MDNR Habitat Improvement Grant &amp; EQIP</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a. Aspen Cuts</b></li><li><b>b. Tree &amp; Shrub Work Bees</b></li><li><b>c. Instream Habitat Wood</b></li></ul></li><li><b>3. Streambank Erosion Concerns</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>a. Settlement Fund</b></li><li><b>b. USFWS Grant Proposal</b></li></ul></li><li><b>4. Shallow Wetland Project</b></li></ul> |
| <b>6:35 – 6:45</b> | <b>IV</b>  | <b>Other Upcoming Projects</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Grasshopper Boardwalk Loop</b></li><li><b>2. Pole Barn Concrete Floors</b></li><li><b>3. Additional American Waste Trash Pick-up</b></li></ul>  |
| <b>6:45 – 6:50</b> | <b>V</b>   | <b>Public Comment (Asper)</b>  |
| <b>6:50 – 6:55</b> | <b>VI</b>  | <b>Meeting Review (Asper)</b>  |
| <b>6:45</b>        | <b>VII</b> | <b>Adjournment (Asper)</b>   |



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## DRAFT AGENDA - BROWN BRIDGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Action Items:

**Action Item 3-3:** Largent to pull together information regarding the history of Park vs Not a Park for Brown Bridge to present at the next meeting.

**Background:** The Brown Bridge Quiet Area was deemed not to be City parkland by the City Attorney many years ago. Declaring Brown Bridge as “parkland” would require a 3/5 vote of the voters before it could be sold by the City. Many activities, such as oil and gas exploration, timber harvesting, and hunting to name a few would not be allowed if the property were declared “parkland”.

**Status: Done.**

**Action Item 3-4:** Largent to give a presentation at the next meeting regarding GTCD and the Parkland Program.

**Background:** The Grand Traverse Conservation District created the Cooperative Parkland Program in 1992 through a start-up grant from Rotary. The City and Grand Traverse County both own land along the Boardman River that require management by natural resource professionals. The Parkland Program has grown ever since.

**Status: Done**

**Action Item 6-1:** Largent will follow-up with Dituri to determine if settlement funds set aside for helping the breach impacted section of the River could be used above the former impoundment.

**Background:** As part of the settlement of lawsuits against the contractor & engineering firms after the October 2012 breach of the dewatering structure at Brown Bridge, \$180,000 was placed in a fund to be used for restoring the river. Rotary of Traverse City are holding the funds. A portion of the funds were used to pay Wil Harmen of Stream Mechanics to determine what should be done. Dave Downer suggested that a portion of this money be used to stabilize the banks above the former impoundment. Harmen agrees but isn't sure if the money can be used in this area.

**Status:** City received approval to use SEP funds at Brown Bridge. Item on Agenda.

**Action Item 6-3:** Largent to distribute a copy of Will Harmen's report to the BBAC.

**Background:** See above.

**Status: Open** - A request was made to the attorneys asking if the report can be made available to the public.

**Action Item 6-4:** GTCD staff to review the information sent by the MDEQ and report back to the BBAC at the September meeting.

**Background:** At the direction of the BBAC Chairman, a request was made to the MDEQ's Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals regarding records showing what, if any, wells at Brown Bridge have been “fracked”. GTCD staff received a response that included a link to a large spreadsheet showing all the wells in the area.

**Status: Done**

**Action Item 12-1:** Add “Trees for the Boardman” to the March meeting agenda and ask N. Fred to attend if he's in town.

**Background:** Norm Fred from Boardman River Clean Sweep received a \$700 grant from LL Bean through the American Canoe Association to plant larger stock in the bottomlands, specifically in spoil area 4. N. Fred then proposed an idea called “Trees for the Boardman” to District staff that would help raise additional funding to plant trees. Largent suggested this idea may need BBAC approval. Scrudato suggested that waiting until the March meeting when the City Manager and the new City Commission liaison are present.

**Status:** Open - On Agenda

## DRAFT AGENDA - BROWN BRIDGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Action Item 12-2:** Ask City Manager Marty Colburn if he would check with the City Attorney if mitigation money could be used on these clay banks.

**Background:** As part of the MDEQ Consent Order regarding the breach of the dewatering structure during the removal of Brown Bridge Dam, a request was made to determine if the money dedicated for restoration could be used in a section of river upstream of the former impoundment (On Agenda). Flees stated that he was also very concerned about two large clay banks that turns the river a milky color after heavy rains. He asked if any of the mitigation money could be used to for these banks. Largent stated that he would check.

**Status:** Open - On Agenda

**Action Item 12-3:** GTCD staff to look at oil & gas leases and when they expire.

**Background:** This is a follow-up to Action Item 6-4-15 where at the direction of the BBAC Chairman, GTCD staff contacted the MDEQ's Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals to determine what, if any, wells at Brown Bridge had been "fracked". The result of that inquiry can be found in the 12/10/15 BBAC Meeting Minutes.

**Status:** Open

**Action Item 12-4:** GTCD Staff to meet with the appropriate City staff to create a section on the City's website dedicated to Brown Bridge.

**Background:** City Manager Marty Colburn suggested that most City residents have heard of Brown Bridge but don't know anything about it or have never visited the property. The was in response to a City resident who suggested selling Brown Bridge to fund other City projects now that the dam is gone. By establishing a place on the City's website dedicated to Brown Bridge those that can't necessarily make it out to the property can keep up with what's happening and view the restoration and beauty of the area from home.

**Status:** Open.